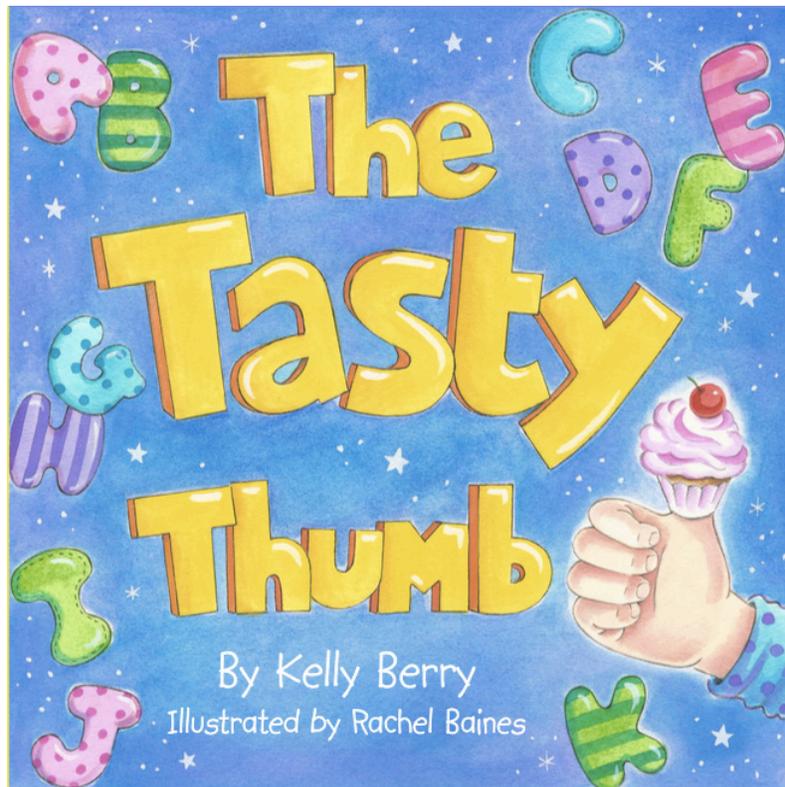


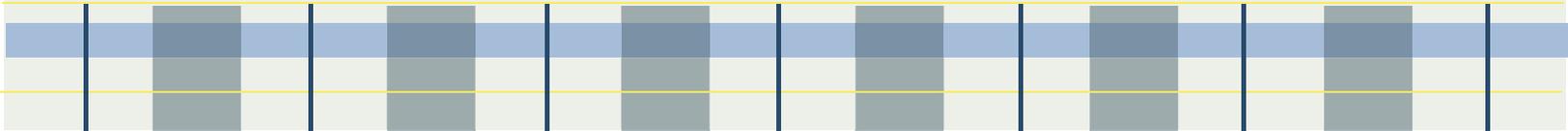
# The Tasty Thumb

by Kelly Berry

**Mission/Objective:** Children will share in whole group and small group discussion to display verbal and written awareness of God's goodness and the importance of prayer.



“Taste and See that the Lord is good!  
How blessed is the person who trusts in him!”  
Psalm 34:8 (ISV)



# Pre-Kindergarten 4's and 5's

**Share with the children:** It pleases God when we talk to him through prayer. God wants us to come and talk to Him. God wants us to tell Him what is on our hearts and minds. God is a great listener and He wants the very best for us. We can talk to God at any time and in any place.

Today, our hands are going to help us learn how to pray to God. Your hands and fingers can help when you pray! Count your fingers on one of your hands: "1-2-3-4-5." You have five fingers and we have five parts of our prayer.

Join me, Let's go! (Count each example, number them with your fingers and invite the children to count along with you.)

## 1. PRAISE:

Praise is saying what you love about someone. For example, "God, I love that you are good." "I love how you made the ocean." "I love that you sent Jesus for our sins." Etc.

## 2. CONFESS:

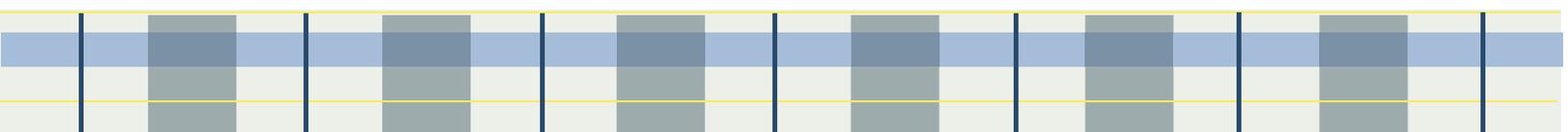
Confession is a big word! It means to get the junk out of your life by talking about it with God and asking for His forgiveness. For example: It's saying, "I'm sorry I lied." "Forgive me for getting in a fight with my brother." "I'm sorry for not loving you like I should."

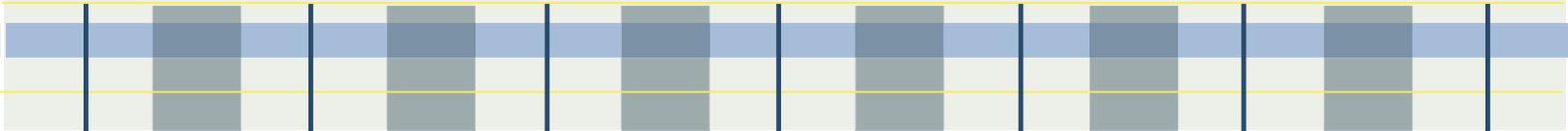
## 3. READ:

Reading God's word, the Holy Bible, helps us see ourselves-- like looking in a mirror. It helps us understand who God is and who we are. It helps us to pray, because the Bible tells us God is listening to our prayers. ("Act out" turning the pages of The Holy Bible or holding up a hand mirror.)

## 4. ASK:

God says in Matthew 21:22, "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." Pray for others. Pray for yourself. For example: You can ask for people to be saved, for God to provide, for wisdom to understand, for help in temptation, or for people to be healed. (Prepare children by helping them fold their hands as in prayer.)





# Pre-Kindergarten 4's and 5's

## 5. THANKS:

God has done so much for us! What can you be thankful for today? (Allow children the opportunity to list items and write them down for everyone to read. Lead the children in a lively worship song of praise/thanksgiving such as "He has made me glad.")

(Go over each part of the 1-2-3-4-5 Prayer Plan with the hand motions for practice. Review a second time with only the single word "prompts". Have students "act out" the hand motions for steps 1-5. Close the lesson in prayer. Model the prayer plan, keeping it simple to hold each child's attention.)

## Songs with your children modeling worship:

### (Hands around mouth)

This is how we sing to Jesus,  
Lift our voice so He can hear us.  
This is how we sing to Jesus,  
Early Sunday morning.

### (Both hands on one shoulder)

This is how we follow Jesus,  
Take our cross and let Him lead us.  
This is how we follow Jesus,  
Early Sunday morning.

### (Hands raised above head)

This is how we worship Jesus,  
Raise our hands so He can see us.  
This is how we worship Jesus,  
Early Sunday morning.

### (Both hands forward with palms up)

This is how we love our Jesus,  
Help each other like He teaches.  
This is how we love our Jesus,  
Early Sunday morning.

### (Pointing to heart)

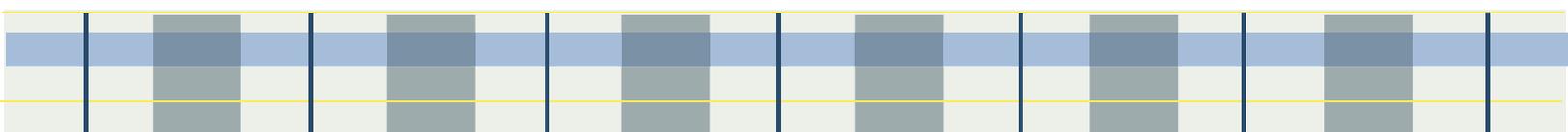
This is how we welcome Jesus,  
Ask Him in so He can free us.  
This is how we welcome Jesus,  
Early Sunday morning.

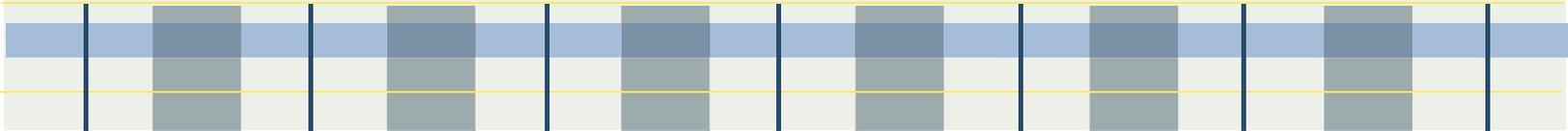
### (Using all the hand signs in order)

Sing and worship our sweet Jesus,  
Ask Him in and follow Jesus,  
Love each other like He teaches,  
Early Sunday Morning.

**"Taste and See that the Lord is good!  
How blessed is the person who trusts in him!"**

**Psalm 34:8 (ISV)**





# Kindergarten- 2nd grade

Share with children: Prayer is... having a conversation with God!

(Share in an “I Wonder?” or small group discussion time by simply “talking” with each other the following questions):

- “Do any of you like to talk on the phone?”
- “Do any of you “talk” on the computer with emails, face time, or texting?”
- “Who do you like to talk to?”
- “What do you talk about?”
- “Do any of you have a cell phone?”
- “How many of you have used your parent’s cell phone to talk with others?”
- “Do your parents get upset if they misplace their phone around the house or if it runs out of battery?”

Talking with people is important to us! We make sure that we can call others whenever we want, any time of day or night, from wherever we are, near or far. We make sure people can reach us wherever we are, at any time.

So, if talking to people is easy and we do it all the time, why is it so hard sometimes to spend time talking with God?

(Prompt/lead children toward these ideas):

- We get busy.
- We don’t see Him all the time, so we forget.
- We don’t know how to pray.
- We may question whether we think God has time to listen to our prayers.
- We may think our problems are too small to share with God.

Why is it important to talk with God? (Allow students to find additional Bible verses about prayer)

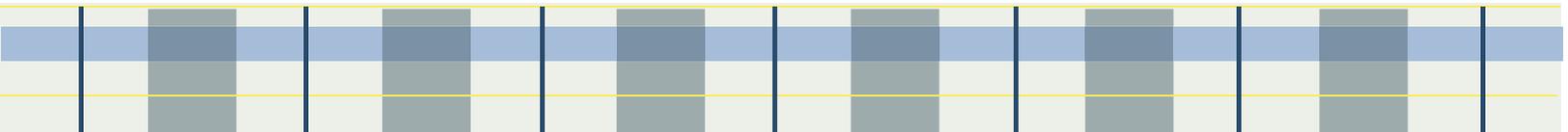
1—God wants us to know Him. (John 17:3, Psalm 145:9, James 1:17 )

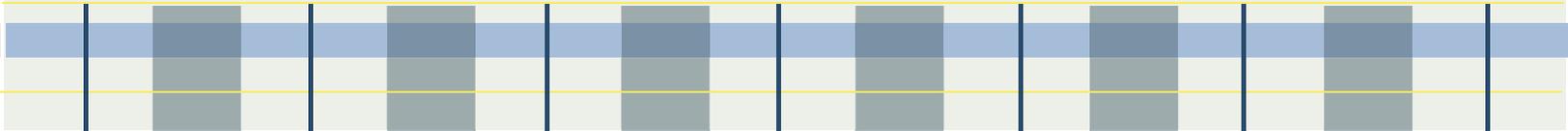
2—God really does answer prayer.( I John 5:14, Psalm 86:5)

3—God wants us to grow in our knowledge of Him and His word. (Romans 12:12, II Peter 3:18, II Timothy 3:16, Romans 12:2)

4—Talking to God and trusting Him with everything helps us depend on Him (Proverbs 3:5-6)

5—God’s Holy Spirit will teach us what we should know (John 14:26, I Cor. 2:10, I John 2:26, 27)





**“Let’s practice!” Today, we’re going to learn how to pray to God. Remember, it’s as simple as talking to someone you love.**

(Write out the word T-A-L-K, vertically, as an acrostic, onto an anchor chart for your students.)

**T: TAKE the TIME:**

(“Act out” pointing to a pretend watch on your wrist.) Find time each day to talk to God. You can pray at the same time each day. Make it a habit, just like brushing your teeth.

**A: AHHHHHH.... Quiet:**

(“Act out” taking a deep breath, as a class.) Find a safe and quiet place in your home. Turn off your TV/Music; find a way to escape from your little brother or sister; you could sit under a table or go into your closet; you could make a fort; etc.

**L: LEARN from God’s Word.**

(“Act out” holding a Bible.)

You could read one verse a day from the Bible. If you’re up for the challenge, read one chapter a day. Ask God to help you understand what you read from His word-the Bible. Ask a grown-up who knows Jesus to help you if you have questions.

**K: KEEP a Prayer Plan.**

(“Act out” writing your plan for prayer.) You can write down praises, prayer requests, and verses that mean a lot to you. You can ask your parents for a notebook to write down your prayers.

(As a reminder, go over T-A-L-K together and see if students can remember the hand motions for each step.)

Additional Anchor Chart Lessons to grow your students spiritually:

- \*Share ways God is good to us!
- \*Read Luke 11 – teaching of Jesus about prayer.
- \*Share and use description words of how God is good, all the time: Powerful, Kind, Loving, Provider, Protector, King, Lord, Gentle, Shepherd, Rock, Anchor, Awesome, Holy, etc.
- \*Keep a thankful journal – write down at least three things you are thankful for each day.
- \*Begin a weekly prayer time in class praying for these specific people groups each day.

**Monday –Missionaries**

**Tuesday – Teachers**

**Wednesday- Widows and orphans**

**Thursday – Those who don’t know JESUS**

**Friday – Friends and Family**

